



IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : G. Duane Gearhart
Serial No. : 10/674,822
Filed : October 1, 2003
Title : PRESENTING DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Art Unit : 3661
Examiner : Richard M. Camby
Confirmation No.: 8781

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Office action mailed October 28, 2005, applicant elects species of the claimed invention shown in FIG. 4, responsive to the species election requirements asserted under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Responsive to the requirement to list all claims that read on the elected species (Figure 4), applicant suggests that claims 1-24 read on the elected species. The election is made with traverse for the reasons set forth hereinafter.

The Office action states:

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: Figure 4, Figure 8, Figure 9 and Figure 10.

See Office action of October 28, 2005 at page 2. Applicant respectfully notes that Figure 4 “illustrates a process 400 that may be used to present succinct narrative driving directions.” See Specification at page 8, lines 12-13. As described in more detail below, each of Figures 8-10 illustrate an example of one or more of the steps included in process 400 illustrated in Figure 4.

Figure 8 illustrates an example of three steps included in the process 400 of Figure 4 – namely, eliminate internal links (step 420), check alternate road names (step 425), and create maneuvers (step 430). Compare Specification at Fig. 4 (showing steps 420-430) with Fig. 8 (also showing steps 420-430). Notably, the Specification states:

As shown in FIG. 8, the mapping system eliminates the internal links 312L and 314L, as described previously with respect to steps 420 and 430 of FIG. 4. As also shown in FIG. 8, the mapping system checks road names and appropriately combines links with matching road names (and/or alternate road names) to create a maneuver, as described previously with respect to steps 425 and 430 of FIG. 4.

Specification at page 13, lines 10-14 (emphasis added). See also Specification at page 14, lines 26-29 (“As noted above, FIG. 8 also illustrates an example of having the mapping system check road names and appropriately combine links with matching road names (and/or alternate road

names) to create a maneuver, as described previously with respect to steps 425 and 430 of FIG. 4").

Figure 9 illustrates an example of the step 440 (combining maneuvers involved in an interchange into an interchange maneuver) included in the process 400 of Figure. Compare Specification at Fig. 4 (showing step 440) with Fig. 9 (also showing step 440). Notably, the Specification states:

FIG. 9 shows results 900 as one example of a mapping system using maneuver information 920 to combine multiple maneuvers 924-926 into a single interchange maneuver 927, as previously described with respect to step 440 of FIG. 4.

Specification at page 16, lines 18-20 (emphasis added).

Figure 10 illustrates an example of the step 445 (eliminate redundant interchange maneuvers) included in the process 400 of Figure. Compare Specification at Fig. 4 (showing step 445) with Fig. 10 (also showing step 445). Notably, the Specification states:

As shown by FIG. 10, multiple maneuvers for an interchange occurring at the link 340L are combined into a single interchange maneuver 1026 and multiple maneuvers for an interchange occurring at the link 345L are combined into a single interchange maneuver 1027, as described previously with respect to step 445 of FIG. 4.

Specification at page 17, lines 25-28 (emphasis added).

For at least the reasons noted above, applicant respectfully requests that the species election requirement be withdrawn.

No fee is believed due. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 28, 2005

Barbara A Benoit
Barbara A. Benoit
Reg. No. 54,777

Customer No.: 26171
Fish & Richardson P.C.
1425 K Street, N.W., 11th Floor
Washington, DC 20005-3500
Telephone: (202) 783-5070
Facsimile: (202) 783-2331